

Syrian Civil War

Name

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Current Event in Business

The 2011 uprising in Syria, christened the Syrian Civil War, is an armed conflict in the country between the government and various groups of rebels. The conflict has been escalating for more than two years. The ongoing destabilization of Syria has held major consequences for international relations on both the economic and political fronts. For example, the United States recently announced that, under the guidance of John Kerry, it would provide non-lethal assistance to the rebels. The war shows no signs of ending and this brings up serious concerns especially in regard to neighboring countries, key amongst them: Lebanon. The uprising has deeply affected Lebanon greatly because these are the two countries have their futures intertwined more deeply than any other two Arab nations. The uprising had a major impact on a number of issues. The major issue is the response of leading religious communities in the country, namely the Shiites, Sunnis and Christians. (MacFarquhar, 2012).

The uprising is bound to escalate the tensions between the major religious communities, considering that each of them have complicated relations with the President of Syria, Bashar al-Assad. Worth noting is that overwhelming support for the government still exists. Much of this long-lasting support comes from the close relationships that are maintained between the President and Hezbollah, the major Shiite party. The uprising is Sunni-led, and many of its sympathizers in Syria are Lebanese Sunnis. Christians also represent an important, but divided group in Syria. Half of the Christians in the country rely on support from Assad and the other half are strong critics of the influence of Syria in Lebanon. (MacFarquhar, 2012).

References

MacFarquhar, N. (2012). Lebanon's Shiites and Sunnis Battle in Syria, but Not at Home. *The New York Times*, http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/20/world/middleeast/lebanons-shiites-and-sunnis-fight-in-syria-but-not-at-home.html?_r=0.